DISSIDENT NEWS Free

NO. 2 - APRIL 26, 1985

Police Strategy Tested

CIVIL/MILITARY PLANS TESTED IN TORONTO

April Fools' Day 1985 will long be remembered as the day when we all played the Fool to the State.

Besides totally defaming another minority group struggling for recognition and their rights, in this case the Armenian community, what took place for a good week was the largest security and police operation in Canada's history.

Consider the following organizations working together: the Metro Police and their intellegence squad, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Quebec Provincial Police, the Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec City police forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Canadian Security Intellegence Service, and the military among others across Canada (plus Interpol).

Never mind that no one (except a couple of top-level 'authorities') has seen the supposed threat against the Toronto public transit system. Never mind that the communique came from an unheard-of "terrorist" group. Never mind that historically, Armenian resistance groups have always acted against Turkish or symbolic targets and not general populations. These are all just minor details in what unfolded to be a massive training excersise. And besides, who's going to remember when the RCMP sent communiques and blew-up mail boxes during the FLQ "crisis" anyway, right?

The week prior to and after April 1, 85, saw full-scale training of the combined above-mentioned forces in civil/military training on the general population of Toronto. This included special intellegence units set up with joint forces of the OPP, RCMP, and CSIS - which now means continued electronic surveillance, mail interception, room bugging, etc., on many Armenians and non-Armenian supporters. It also included thousands of uniformed and plain-clothes police converging on Toronto's subway, bus, and streetcar systems, increased road patrols, and even aerial surveillance with two helicopters and one plane circling Toronto the entire day!

The Toronto airport was on "full alert", as were the Hydro buildings and government buildings, and fire, hospital, and ambulance services.

Everyone just followed orders to a tee!

No bombing took place. Instead, increased police harassment will now take place. Increased budgets for surveillance and intellegence operations to deal with so-called "terrorists" will take place. Increased police awareness and ability to deal with any kinds of subversive actions will now be able to take place.

When a "state of emergency" is called in the future, be it for "terrorism", war, a million protesters in the streets, or perhaps an all-out general strike the authorities and the State will be well prepared to deal with us.

And now a few memorable quotes from Metro Police Chief Jack Marks: "This has been a good learning experience."; "All security forces will learn from it." and "This time we've secured all of Metro."

And next time.....?

STATE SECURITY AND POLICE POWERS

Over 36,000 Canadians have applied for information in their private government files since the Privacy Act was passed 16 months ago. 80% have received all or part of the information requested, 2% were turned down, and the rest either didn't exist on the particular file or gave up looking.

The federal government has at least 10 private files on each Canadian, out of a possible 2,200 data banks. There are 300 million individual files on Canadians (there are 25 million people). There are 20 information banks with up to 800,000 names that Ottawa won't even reveal if you're on file in them. Those 20 files are: Canada Post: related crimes/offences records. Correctional Services: security records, prison security threats records, & security inquiries records. Employment & immigration: immigration security & intellegence data bank, & enforcement information index system. National defence: military police investigation, & Communications Securities Establishment, a bank containing potential risks to national security. Revenue Canada: customs intellegence records, tax evasion and tax avoidance cases. Privy Council Office: security & intellegence information files. RCMP: criminal operational intellegence files, security service records, & protection of personnel and government property. And Solicitor General: security police and operational records, commissions of inquiry, police records on security & safety of people and property, wiretapping, and RCMP operational records.

In other news, the Law Reform Commission of Canada, an advisory group of judges, reported that there is "a clear gap between the legal rules for issuing and obtaining search warrants and the daily realities of practice." The procedures vary from city to city and there is widespread exceptions to search-warrant requirements making searches easier.

In Alberta, police cannot conduct random searches of people entering a rock concert. In Ontario, poli-

ce cannot stop someone and keep them waiting without a specific reason while they check their computers for outstanding warrants. In Manitoba, police cannot arbitrarily stop and search someone simply because s/he has a criminal record or their face is known. These decisions are a result of specific provincial court rulings.

PRISON(ER) NEWS

On April 1, 85, 23 prisoners surrendered after taking over part of the Cape Breton prison in Nova Scotia for 3½ hours. Police would not say why or how it began.

During the past 10 years, there have been 74 murders and 91 suicides inside Canada's federal prisons.

And in international news, the Irish government has opened a new prison on Spike Island due to being desperately short of prison space.

DIRECT ACTION TACTICS USED

After a 16-day illegal strike by 1000 miners in Sparwood B.C. ended on April 16, the RCMP are investigating about 20 instances of vandalism to company property. The strike started after a worker was told to wash a company truck, a job not part of his duties.

On April 21, someone sabotaged a rail switch near Sault Ste. Marie causing a two-engine derailment and fuel spill. A superintendent said:"Whoever did it knew what he was doing."

And in Michigan, American Motors is suing the United Auto Workers contending that workers have sabotaged 700 jeeps by welding the doors shut.

UNEMPLOYED PROTEST

On April 3, unemployed youths occupied government offices in Montreal and Quebec City to protest the lack of jobs and low welfare money. Quebecers under 30 get $156 a month while those over 30 get $430.

Meanwhile here in Toronto, 400 welfare workers are being trained this year to spot and handle unemployed people who become violent.

RADIATION NEWS

On March 6, 78 workers at the Pickering nuclear plant were exposed to radioactive dust while retubing reactors. Traces of carbon-14 were also found in the homes of 8 workers.

The week before, 30 wprkers at the same plant became violently ill when they drank untreated water from Lake Ontario which mixed with the drinking supply after a valve was left open.

And when the Romanian president was visiting the area in mid-April, his planned visit to Pickering was cancelled due to leaking radioactive dust from the same tubes. Meanwhile, a "mock nuclear disaster" planned for the area on May 8 & 9 has been postponed until the fall because too many people knew about it.

Eaton's Strike Cont.s

On March 28, about 100 strikers and supporters went to the mansions of John Craig and Fredrik Eaton demanding a settlement. They were greeted by the butler who politely took their letters.

On April 17, activists won the right to picket inside the shopping malls in downtown Ottawa where an Eaton's store is located, after two trespassing charges were dropped.

When a group of strikers and supporters wanted to present Fredrik Eaton with 1600 cut-up Eaton's credit cards collected, Eaton's ordered the power cut to the entire elevator bank to stop them from reaching his office on the 19th floor. Five representatives were escorted up and presented the cards to two vice-presidents.

Eaton's workers in six Ontario stores have been trying to get a first contract since Nov. 30.

You can help support the strike by attending a benefit performance at Massey Hall on May 6. Nancy White and the Parachute Club are part of a long list of performers. Tickets are $9.99 or $4.99 for unemployed and are available by calling their union at 444-5205.

Also, the day before on May 5, a boycott is urged for the annual Eaton's race through downtown Toronto.

ACTIVIST TRIALS AND NEWS

Charges were dismissed against Paul Watson and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. They arose from a paint-bombing action against a Soviet ship in an anti-whaling protest. The charges were related to operating an aircraft negligently, at low levels, & from dropping things from it.

In Winnipeg, police accused of "unreasonable and excessive force" at a demonstration at the US Consulate 18 months ago, will not face disciplinary action.

A provincial court judge in Ontario has ruled that protesters charged with mischief at the Litton plant can have the option of trial by judge and jury instead of a judge alone.

And the Ottawa peace campers, after having their camp dismantled twice by security April 22 & 23, will not be charged after being arrested. The campers have rejected an offer from the government for an alternate site, and vow to remain in front of the Parliament buildings.

Free Trees

Anyone who wants a tree in their front yard can call the Department of Parks and Recreation at 947-7281 and simply ask for one to be planted. You can have your choice of Norway Maple, Linden, Locust or Green Ash.

WARNING

YOUR CONTINUED WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW LEADERS IS GETTING US NOWHERE.

May Day 1985. So here we are again. Another workers' festival to celebrate the fact that today we are no nearer a fair and free society than we were 12 months ago - to celebrate twelve months of following left politicians and trade union bureaucrats along that long and winding road towards their ever-receding utopia.

At the same time, throughout the world, the vast majority of people have no control whatsoever over the decisions that most deeply and directly affect their lives. They sell their labour power while others who own or control the means of production accumulate wealth, make the laws and use the whole machinery of the State to perpetuate and reinforce their privileged positions.

The trade union movement has become just another part of the machinery of the State. It makes a show by helping to knock off the rough edges of working life, but as capitalism falls apart the trade union bureaucrats and presidents-for-life rush around propping up the crumbling walls and papering over the cracks that have become chasms. After years of telling their members to compromise with their employers and to put all their power and hopes into the hands of a chosen few, the unions now get despondent at the lack of militancy shown by its membership!

Left politicians present themselves as the 'alternative government' - but we don't need an 'alternative government'. What we need is an alternative to government. Politicians, of all shades, make lots of promises but there is only one thing about them that you can count on, if elected they will hurt you if you don't do what they say. Government is the playground bully turned into a national institution. Democracy is the right to choose the bully that you personally find the least offensive. That's an improvement on having no choice at all - but isn't there more to life than this?

Anarchism is the political expression of the desire and need for freedom - freedom to control our own lives, to freely co-operate with others and to try to make our dreams into reality. We can start that social revolution now by organizing together - without leaders - to dismantle this social system which destroys people, destroys the environment and comes ever closer to the final destruction of the world. To some people the idea of revolution may seem absurd - but everything else is even more absurd, since it is limited to what exists and the various ways of putting up with it.

We've been conscientious objectors to capitalism too long. It used to seduce us with its comfy cushions and shiny toys but now it can't even deliver these shoddy goods. The show is over. It's time to leave.
It's time for finding a way of life we can affirm.

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ANIMAL ACTION

Police are looking into the possibility that animal rights people broke into an office at Victoria Hospital in London, Ont. on March 26. Nothing was taken.

From a letter to the editor of the Toronto Star, factory farmed rabbits are forced to "produce" up to 11 litters each year for "bunny burgers" and fur coats. 350 million animals are killed each year for food. In Winnipeg, 7000 rabbits are killed each month for food in a flourishing black market business.

In a London, Ont. court on March 29, the two researchers conducting experiments on babboons at Western University, were sent to trial set for cruelty charges. The trial date is Aug. 6. Lifeforce, a Vancouver-based animal rights group, privately laid the charges.

The Fur Institute, an advocacy group that includes trappers, fur-processing and retail organizations, will be setting up a centre to test traps on animals. This is part of a program to protect their $680-million-a-year industry which is being threatened by an increased European animal rights campaign.

And internationally, a shareholder of a health food company in Washington, Iroquois Brands Ltd., has won the right to have an animal rights issue put in the company's 1985 annual meeting notice. Iroquois buys goose liver patè from France, where geese are force-fed at 4 months old, their body & wings are put in a metal brace, its neck is stretched, and a funnel is inserted about a foot down the throat. A machine pumps up to 400 grams of food into the stomach, and an elastic band around the throat prevents regurgitation. Manual feeders use a stick to force the food down the funnel and throat.

Excuse me while I puke.....

On April 17, Belgium police seized two tons of synthetic hormones used illegally for fattenning cattle, in a flourishing international black market trade worth about $3-billion-a-year.

A Tokyo court has ruled that a blind person's dog is entitled to $9000 compensation when the dog lost its front leg in an accident. The vet intended to kill the dog but amputated the leg instead after a deluge of protest letters.

And on April 20, the Animal Liberation Front rescued an amazing 260 animals from the University of California including rats, rabbits, cats, and a few-months-old monkey which had its head wired and taped in a sight-deprivation experiment. The eyes were apparently sewn shut.

Doesn't all this news inspire you to join the ALF? Well, if you don't want to join, do the next best thing and get involved with the Animal Liberation Front Supporters' Group! The ALFSG is an above-ground organization set up to take care of legalities, publicity, fundraising, the newsletter, and generally act as an information network for the ALF. Sound like your kinda stuff? Well send them a letter then, [illegible] News!

anti-authoritarian AANN news network
P.O.Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9, Canada

The Anti-Authoritarian News Network is a news and information service which distributes anarchist and alternative literature, and acts as a clearinghouse for information on actions of protest and dissent (local and worldwide), plus other related news of interest to activists and radicals. A listing of what is currently available from AANN is free on request. Please send an S.A.S.E.

The AANNetwork publishes Dissident News - a free news and events publication intended for a wide, local distribution. The AANNetwork is also part of the Ekomedia Network - an international news and information service - and publishes the Toronto Bulletin for this network. Both Dissident News and Ekomedia Bulletin-Toronto are available by mail for $5.00 a year. Cheques or money-orders should be payable to AANN.

Comments and submissions are encouraged. If you need information on the above or related subjects, please send a detailed letter.

Theatre Kathartic

The Theatre Kathartic is a political and social theatre company formed in 1980 between Paris and Toronto. It is founded on Dadaist principles and utilizes all forms of art, in a multi-disciplinary sense, placed together into the medium of theatre. Since 1980, they have performed and worked with a wide variety of artists in Canada, United States, England, and Spain, and have established a working pool of international artists.

"An arte publico, militant and revolutionary. A theatre sensuous and cathartic."

The Theatre Kathartic are now performing their most current project, 'The Danse Macabre', in Montreal, Guelph and Toronto. The Danse of Death examines the relationships six characters have with death, its two advisors, and the dead bird which represents the damage done to nature.

Directed and choreographed by Julie Asterisk, The Danse Macabre will be performed in Toronto on April 29 & 30 at Actors Lab, 155A George St. at 9:00 pm.

LESBIAN & GAY ARTISTS

The International Gay Association in conjunction with Gallery 940, is sponsering an exhibition featuring the works of lesbian and gay artists. During I.G.A. conference week (June 30-July 7) works will be displayed at both Gallery 940 and Artculture Resourse Centre. The theme of the conference is "Smashing Borders - Opening Spaces", and if you are interested in participating, you can forward slides, proposals, and resumés with S.A.S.E. by May 15 to: I.G.A. Conference Committee, 105 Carlton St. 4th Fl. Toronto, Ont. M5B 1M2, Attn: Exhibition Committee. For further information call Lisa-Beth at 469-4436.

Events

. 28 -Protest the Ont. Human Rights Commission's ecision not to appeal an inquiry's ruling that acial harassment is immoral but not illegal. pm, 400 University Ave.

. 29 -Join the Slime Tour 85 as part of To Busi-ess As Usual Day. 3 pm, SE corner Bay & Dundas.

-The Theatre Kathartic performs The Danse acabre at Actors Lab, 155A George St., 9 pm.

. 30 -Theatre Kathartic performs again same place

y 1 -KYTES, a youth theatre troupe, performs at the Rivoli, 334 Queen St. w. 531-4631 for info.

-May Day Distress Rally, organized by Mothers Action Group and Union of Unemployed Workers, is at 1 pm, Queens Park. 781-6839 or 654-7945.

-An evening to celebrate May Day with Arlene Mantle, the Red Berets, etc. at the Graduate Students Union, 16 Bancroft, 2nd floor, 6:30 pm. Proceeds to the Eaton's Strike Fund.

-Running until May 25 is the Fem Fest 85 with works at various locations. 466-2030 for info.

y 2 -Husker Du is at Larry's, 121 Carlton. $8.00.

ay 3 -A Benefit Danse for Africa Liberation Day at Portuguese Can. Democratic Hall, 860 College. 8-1 am, $5/$3. D.J., refreshments, cash bar, etc.

-Help decorate the new temporary ACT Office at 382-4 Queen W. Bring your own spraypaint!

y 5 -May Day Rally at the north side of Queens Park, 12 noon, with Brian Dakin, NUM rep.

-Boycott the Eaton's race at Bay & Dundas.

y 6 -A benefit for Eaton's strikers at Massey Hall will include Nancy White, the Parachute Club, plus a long list of performers. 178 Victoria St. 8 pm. $9.99/$4.99. 444-5205 for ticket info.

y 7 -New Directions For The Peace Movement; a panel discussion with ACT, TDN, CMCP, etc. 7:30 pm. 519 Church St. Community Centre. 532-3430.

ay 8 -The Cross Cultural Communications Centre is holding an open house at their new location at 965 Bloor W. Noon till 8 pm.

ay 10 -A womens cultural program at the Trojan Horse features B.J. & Maxine, Diane Barbarash, and Irene Grainger and Mary O'Connell. 179 Danforth.

-Electronic music group Two Bird Limit will be playing at ACT, 382-4 Queen W. $3.00.

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ere is a brief description of the films listed in vents: Koyaanisqatsi is a film without characters r conventional plot, but with devastating music & merawork of contemporary America, from scenes of eat natural beauty and disater to man-made beauty d disaster. Marianne and Juliane is a story of e relationship between two sisters, an imprisoned d Brigade member and her sister who visits her. sed on a true story. Repo Man is about disen-anted youths in today's world, about a lack of aningful jobs, and a CIA conspiracy! All these lms are well worth seeing.

May 11 -The Trojan Horse is having a 2nd Anniversary Party tonight with many performers. 179 Danforth.

-G.B.H., the Subhumans, Scream, and Direct Action are all playing at Larrys, 121 Carlton. $10

May 12 -Marianne and Juliane is playing at the Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor W. 9 pm.

May 13 -Koyaanisqatsi is playing at the Fox Cinema, 2236 Queen E. 9 pm.

May 14 -As part of Fem Fest 85, performance, video and music will be happening at the Rivoli, 334 Queen W. 8 pm.

May 16 -A Space presents a multi-media benefit with writers, performers, music and video screenings at the Bamboo, 312 Queen W. $5/7/9. 364-3227.

-Jane Sapp, a US singer/activist, will be performing at the Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth.

-Repo Man is playing at the Brighton Cinema, 127 Roncesvalles, 9 pm.

May 17 -ACT poetry night, feature & open set. $3.00, 382-4 Queen E.

May 19 -The Black Music Association is having a seminar, show, and danse to honour Bob Marley, at the Diamond Club, 410 Sherbourne, 4 pm.

May 20 -Koyaanisqatsi is playing at the Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor W. 7 pm.

May 22 -Fem Fest 85 continues with performance and music at the Horseshoe, 368 Queen W. 8 pm.

Repo Man is playing at the Fox Cinema, 2236 Queen E. 7 pm.

May 24 -ACT is holding a forum on Star Wars with Lyn Traynor of Science for Peace. 382-4 Queen E. 7 pm.

May 25 -Africa Liberation Day rally at the South African Consulate, NW corner King & Bay, 1:30 pm. March to US Consulate, rally at City Hall at 3.

-ARK II is holding a pound seizure protest at Queens Park at 1 pm. 487-4681.

-ACT Highschool Network Party open to all, 382-4 Queen W. $2. Tall New Buildings are playing.

May 29 -Toward An Ecology of Mind; a forum on the human mind in relation to the process of social change. 519 Church St. 7:30 pm.

May 30 -Kitchen Jahm Creative Collective presents an exploration of works dedicated to universal liberation through creation. Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth, $4, 7 pm.

May 31 -ACT is holding a forum on the psychological factors affecting the US & USSR. 382-4 Queen E,7pm

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